

**KALAMAZOO COUNTY PARKS DEPARTMENT  
PARK COMMISSION MEETING**

**July 11, 2019**

**Members Present:** Thomas Matteson, Toni Thompson, Robert Moore, Marion Hill, Mildred Taraszka  
Sandy Bliesener, Roger Tuinier, Pat Crowley, Tom Brennan (Road Commission Alternate)

**Members Absent:** Matt Lechel, Larry Stehouwer

**Discover Kalamazoo Liaison:** Greg Ayers

**Staff Present:** David Rachowicz Lisa Henthorn

**Citizens:**

1. **Call to Order** – The meeting was held at the Kalamazoo County Expo Center and was called to order at 3:00 p.m. By Chairperson, Thomas Matteson.
2. **Roll Call** – Roll was taken and a quorum was established. **Motion:** Matteson made a motion to excuse members not present. Seconded by Hill. Motion carried by voice vote.
3. **Approval of Minutes – June 6, 2019 Meeting** – Members reviewed the minutes. **Motion:** Bliesener moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Seconded by Crowley. Motion carried by voice vote.
4. **Citizen’s Time** – No citizens Present
5. **Communications** – No communications
6. **Old Business**
  - a. **Park Preservation and Natural Resources Protection Policy** – Matteson asked Commissioners if they had any questions or additional comments on the information that was distributed at the previous meeting. Taraszka asked for clarifications on park rules related to number of vehicles on a campsite, reservations, and pets on leashes. Crowley and Ayers asked for a copy to be emailed to them. Matteson stated the committee will be meeting later in July and this will be on the August agenda for further discussion.
7. **New Business**
  - a. **Park Activity Report** – Members reviewed the report.
  - b. **2019 Park Special Event Requests** - Members reviewed the special event requests received in their meeting packet. **Motion:** Bliesener moved to approve the requests as submitted. Seconded by Moore. Taraszka asked if staff is present when mill is open. Rachowicz responded yes. Motion carried by voice vote.  
Approved events:

**Bike Friendly Kalamazoo  
Hotcake Hustle**

**Scotts Mill County Park  
KRV Trail**

**September 21, 2019  
October 26, 2019**

- c. **River Oaks Thunderbirds R/C Club 2019 Contract-** Rachowicz explained this contract is for remainder of 2019 and 2020. Motion: Moore moved to approve recommending approval by the Board of Commissioners as submitted. Seconded by Crowley. Motion carried by a voice vote.
- d. **Expo Center Alcohol Request- Southern Shores Field Service Council Pinewood Derby-Motion:** Bliesener moved to approve approval of the Expo Center Alcohol Request as submitted by the Southern Shores Field Council. Seconded by Moore. Motion carried by a voice vote.
- e. **Kalamazoo County Fair Update-**Hill reported that everyone is prepared for the fair. She distributed the Friend of the Fair information, Open Class Flyer, and passed around the Volunteer Sign-Up Sheet. She also reminded members that the Community Lunch will be held on Thursday, August 8 and that Park Commissioners are invited to attend.
- f. **Park Foundation Update-** Thompson reported that she attended the Trail Summit at the Expo Center, the Campaign Coordinator, Amy Post has been working on fundraising with campaign cabinet members, and she reminded Commissioners that the Golf Outing is September 20<sup>th</sup>.

## **8. Director's Report**

- a. **Budget Report** – Members reviewed the report included in their meeting packet.
- b. **June Update** – Rachowicz reported that a contract will be going to the Board of Commissioners to replace the engine in the Case Loader. Rachowicz gave an update on engineering for the next segment of the KRV Trail and reported that the MDEQ Wetland Permit and Rail Permit are the two remaining items that need completion by AR Engineering.

## **9. Sales Report** - Members reviewed the report received in their meeting packet.

## **10. Members' Time** – Crowley asked about the portion of the Kal-Haven Trail County Parks maintains. Thompson responded that it is 8 miles in Kalamazoo County. Pat stated she was recently on this section and it is a very nice section of natural trail. Crowley also asked for information on historical signs. Rachowicz will email the group when it is available.

## **11. Adjournment-** The meeting was adjourned at 3:55PM.

**Minutes approved at the August 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting**